Scheme in various States in the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: (a) to (d) Million Wells Scheme (MWS) was launched as a sub-scheme of National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during 1988-89. On 1.4.1989 NREP and RLEGP were merged and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) launched. Million Wells Scheme continued as sub-scheme of JRY upto 31.12.1995. It is now being implemented as an independent scheme w.e.f. 1.1.1996. The objective of Million Wells Scheme is to provide assistance for construction of irrigation sources and land development, free of cost for the poor small and marginal farmers belonging to SCs/STs and freed bonded labourers. From 1993-94 Million Wells Scheme has been extended to non SC/ST poor small and marginal farmers also. Million Wells Scheme is being a Centrally sponsored scheme, the funds are shared between Central and State on 80:20 basis. Million Wells Scheme funds are allocated among the districts by the State Government with reference to the unirrigated land with potential for well irrigation and improvement of lands held by the rural poor. The scheme is being implemented all over the country including Orissa. MWS Scheme will be continued during the Ninth Five Years Plan also.

The physical and financial performance under MWS during 1996-97 in respect of Orissa is as under:—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Total available funds (OB + Funds released)	Expenditure	Wells constructed (in no.)
5049.96	4176.51	18349

Priority to productive employment and land reforms

1643. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has given the highest priority to generate adequate productive employment with focus on agriculture and emphasis on radical land reforms;

(b) whether he agrees with this policy; and

(c) if so, whether Government are lacking in land reforms and which are the States who are very much behind in land reforms and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission and this ministry have traditionally emphasized issues related to the generation of productive employment and implementation of land reform measures. The Programme of action for land Reforms in the 9th Plan *inter alia* includes the detection/redistribution of ceiling surplus land, tenancy reforms, regular updating of land records, prevention of tribal land alienation and ensuring the access of women and weaker sections of society to land.

(c) It is not a fact to say that the Government is lagging in the implementation of Land Reform measures. For example, as a consequence of the enforcement of land ceiling laws, about 74 lakh acres has been declared surplus. Most of this land has been distributed mainly to landless persons belonging to the SC/ST. Substantial progress has also been made in the Consolidation of Holdings and in respect of tenancy reforms.

Contract for the dug wells to a foreign NGO in Orissa

1644. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Kalahandi (Orissa) contract for the dug wells has

been given to a foreign NGC which is charging Rs. 22,200/-per well as appeared in "Times of India", dated 27th June, 1997; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds for Various Rural Water Supply Schemes

1645. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise quantum of funds given during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan periods for the various rural water supply schemes; and

(b) whether the funds given to the States were adequate to meet their requirements?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) A Statement showing the State-wise quantum of funds released to the States during the Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plan periods under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme is annexed. (*see below*)

(b) The funds released to the States were adequate to meet their requirements as per the annual targets for coverage of villages/habitations with safe drinking water facilities.

Statement

Funds released under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme CARWSP) during VII and VIII plan

(Rs. in Crores)

STATE/UT	Quantum of funds released during	
	VII Plan	VIII Plan
Andhra Pradesh	108.380	248.675
Arunachal Pradesh	4.378	43.420
Assam	71.120	92.877
Bihar	108.722	161.234
Goa	1.160	11.704
Gujarat	75.784	158.750
Haryana	32.336	98.227
Himachal Pradesh	44.580	62.287
Jammu & Kashmir	100.089	150.367
Karnataka	95.446	237.264
Kerala	55.068	116.727
Madhya Pradesh	145.080	265.222
Maharashtra	126.638	307.496
Manipur	17.780	18.046
Meghalaya	17.203	21.656
Mizoram	8.708	13.543
Nagaland	21.063	12.501
Orissa	58.819	137.080
Punjab	29.038	49.820
Rajasthan	171.710	411.690
Sikkim	16.426	22.487
Tamil Nadu	95.510	203.196
Tripura	17.805	31.630